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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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SAIGON 15416 9/26/71

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-06 H-02 INR-06 L-03 NSAE-0
NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 AID-20 UPW-0
RSR-01 /095 W

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R 260425Z SEP 71
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0391
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMCONSUL DANANG
CINCPAC
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
USDEL FRANCE
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Ivan Izaky DATE 1/26/82
RDS☐ or XDS☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☑
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAIGON 15416

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJ: THIEU SPEAKS UNEXPECTEDLY

REF: A. SAIGON 15243
B. SAIGON 15379

1. SUMMARY: PRESIDENT THIEU SPOKE ON GVN RADIO MORNING SEPT 25 AND LATER IN THE EVENING ON TV AGAIN JUSTIFYING THE HOLDING OF THE UNCONTESTED ELECTION AND CALLING ON THE PEOPLE TO RESIST CALLS TO VIOLENT PROTESTS. (TEXT SENT BY FBIS SAIGON P 250350Z SEPT) END SUMMARY

② 2. NOTING THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD ANSWERED THE PROCLAMATION PASSED BY THE UPPER HOUSE SEPT 22 (REF A) WITH A COMMUNIQUE THE FOLLOWING DAY (REF B), THIEU SAID THAT NEVERTHELESS HE FELT HE HAD TO GIVE FURTHER EXPLANATIONS IN ORDER TO "SMASH THE WICKED SLANDERS BY THE PEOPLE WHO OPPOSE ME." HE THEN WENT ON TO DESCRIBE THAT THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS LEFT NO ALTERNATIVE FOR HIM BUT TO PROCEED WITH THE ELECTION IN THE ABSENCE OF ACTION

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BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. THE ELECTION IS UNCONTESTED BECAUSE THE OTHER CANDIDATES CHOSE NOT TO RUN, WHICH IS "THEIR BUSINESS". HE NOTED THAT BOTH THE COMMUNISTS AND SOME POLITICALLY AMBITIOUS PERSONS AND POLITICAL GROUPS AMONG THE NATIONALISTS WANT TO INCITE "STUDENTS, WAR INVALIDS, AND THE FAMILIES OF DEAD HEROES TO TAKE TO THE STREETS." HE ASKED THEM NOT "TO LET THEMSELVES BE POISONED AND INCITED TO ACTS OF VIOLENCE", AND RECALLED THAT ALL HAD SUFFERED FROM THE ACTS OF UNREST FIVE OR SIX YEARS BEFORE. ENDING, HE NOTED THAT IF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WANTS TO CHANGE THE ELECTIONS, IT IS FREE TO MODIFY THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS.

3. COMMENT: THE PRESIDENT'S UNSCHEDULED ADDRESS CLEARLY HAD THE DUAL PURPOSES OF ANSWERING THE UPPER HOUSE ACTION, SAYING IT IS THEIR RESPONSIBILITY, NOT HIS, FOR CHANGING THE COURSE OF THE ELECTION, AND OF MAKING A PERSONAL PLEA FOR THE PEOPLE NOT TO SUPPORT THE PROTEST DEMONSTRATIONS SCHEDULED THE SAME DAY.
BUNKER

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-06 H-02 INR-06 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 IO-11 UPW-01
AID-20 INRE-00 RSR-01 /106 W
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Saigon 15481 9/27/71

P R 271500Z SEP 71
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0431
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
CINCPAC
AMCONSUL DANANG
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
USDEL FRANCE
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

UNCLAS SAIGON 15481

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJECT: THIEU CAMPAIGN SPEECH

1. PRESIDENT THIEU GAVE HIS THIRD CAMPAIGN SPEECH FOR 70 MINUTES ON TV EVENING SEPTEMBER 27 OUTLINING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF HIS FIRST TERM AND HIS PLANS FOR THE SECOND.

① 2. HE RECALLED THAT IN 1967 HE HAD NAMED HIS THREE GOALS AS RESOLVING THE WAR, CONSTRUCTING DEMOCRACY, AND REFORMING SCOCIETY. NOW DEFACTO PEACE AWS LARGELY ACHIEVED: MAJOR PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE TOWARDS BUILDING A NEW CONSITUTTIONAL POLICICAL SYSTEM (IN WHICH HE NOTED ORDERLY POLITICAL OPPOSITION IS A PART): AND SOCIETY HAS BEEN REFORMED WITH EXTENSIVE BENEFITS FOR THE PEOPLE INCLUDING LAND REFORM, MORE EDUCATION, TTC. (THIEU GAVE AMPLE STATISTICS.) HE EXPECTS FULL PEACE IN TWO YEARS AS THE COMMUNISTS MUST EITHER ACCEPT A SETTLEMENT OR THE WAR FADEA WAY. NOTING THAT SHOUTH VIETNAM IS NOW PASSING FROM THE PERIOD OF BITTER STRUGGLE TO A PERIOD OF BUILDING PEACE AND SOCIETY, HE DESCRIBED HIS PLANS FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRIAL EXPERTS, ETC., NOTING THAT THE U.S. HAS PLEDGED AID TO CONTINUE THIS DEVELOPMENT. HE CONCLUDED SAYING MUCH REMAINS TO BE DONE, BUT IF THE PEOPLE GIVE

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HIM THEIR CONFIDENCE, HE WILL BE ABLE TO CARRY OUTTHESE PLANS.
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